

Who cared about a Jewish baby born in Bethlehem?
Almost 2,000 years ago the world was watching Rome in all her splendor. There was political intrigue, racial tension, increased immorality, and enormous military might occupied everyone's attention and conversation. Palestine existed under the crush of Rome's heavy boot. All eyes were on Ceasar Augustus, the cynical ceasar who demanded a census so as to determine a measurement to enlarge taxes. At the time, WHO was interested in a couple making an eighty-mile trip south from Nazareth? What could possibly be more important than Ceasar's decisions in Rome? Who cared about a Jewish baby born in Bethlehem?

GOD DID!!! Without realizing it, the Mighty Augustus was only an errand boy for the fulfillment of the Prophet's ... a pawn in the hand of God ... a piece of lint on the pages of prophecy. While Rome was busy making history, God Arrived? He pitched His Fleshly Tent in silence on straw (John 1:14)... in a stable under a star. The world didn't even notice. Reeling from the power and might of Alexander the Great ... Herod the Great Augustus the Great, the world overlooked Mary's little Lamb.

It STILL does!
In His Service and Yours


For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given ...

Isaiah 9:6



## Christmas

Chiming bells and falling snow, Grandma's house and mistletoe, Christmas trees, the smell of holly, Hot chocolate and being jolly, Candy canes with crooked handles, Egg nog and twinkling candles, Ice skating on a frozen lake, Yule time spirit and fruit cake, Stain glass windows, cold clear nights, Merry elves and Christmas lights, Santa Claus and silver sleds, Magic dreams of greens and reds, Jesus Christ, a lone bright star Shining in the night of tar, Snowmen and smiling faces, Cold noses and fireplaces, Wreathes of joy and happiness Are all a part of my Christmas.

Jim Williams
Laboratory Dept.


## Letter to Santa

I'm writing this letter, Dear Santa To ask for your help this year.
In spreading Good Tidings and Friendship And Wonderful Feelings of Cheer!

Make room in your big bag, Oh Santa For some Special Portions of Love
To give to the lonely and homeless And let them know they're thought of.

Saint Nick, if a Bountiful Harvest Would fit on the back of your sleigh.
Strap it in tight, secured for the flight So many are hungry today.

On this list of my Holiday Wishes There's just one more thing $I$ will ask.
Please send 'round the earth and to all men A joyous Peace that will last!
--Barbara Adams, QI

D. M. Hayes


Welcome to the Petty Officer Association Corner. We are here to assist you (our family) in any way we can by providing important information about what's available to you in the communty. For instance, how many of you knew that this small city of Millington had a crises center available for the military commanity as well as the civilian community? Well, I don't know about you but $I$ most certainly didn't. Not only is there a crises center here in Millington but if you walk outside the front doors of the information desk of the Naval Hospital it is located across the street towards your left in a set of brown buildings. Talk about convenience.

The Millington Crises Center Ministry was founded in February 1987 for people who needed assistance but did not have the transportation to get to Menphis. Everything 18 done by VOLUNTEERS and DONATIONS. One of the best things about this center is that military. E-4 and below. can shop there for free. Just show your military I.D. card. The center also offers educational classes on parenting techniques, home making skills, skills to help people get jobs, and support groups. For more information about the center and what they offer just call 872-HELP are talk to Mrs. Nabors of 5E/OB or PO Association members HM1 Ehrichs. HM1 David, or myself HM2 Hayes.

# BRANCH SPOTLIGHT <br> By: HM2 Darren Cawthon 



The morning dawned clear with the promise of a falr day ahead. The date was December 5, 1993, and to most Americans it was Just another Sunday morning. To Branch Medical Clinic Runner, HMCM Billy Vann, HM1 Douglas Flannery, and HM2 Darren Cawthon it was something more: Marathon Day.

Now to HM1 Douglas "Marathon Man" Flannery, who has been known to cover the entire marathon course at an average of $6: 30$ per mile, this is still going to be an ordinary day. For our other two brave souls, it will be a day they will never forget.

Asics, Nike, New Balance Brooks, Avia, Mizuno... every type of running shoe in every imaginable color was represented as well as runners of all age groups, from every region of this country and as far away as Russia. All those days of running $8-10$ miles of pure, unadulterated, gut-wrenching, min-altering, no help, all-on-yourown running.

HM1 Flannery blazed through the race at a blistering pace to finish at a time slightly under three hours. HM2 Cawthon was next to finish at a time of $4: 47$ while HMCM Vann followed closely behind in a time of just over 5 hours. Our two "first-timers" had finished the race in an upright position and with all their internal organs in their original places and began excitediy discussing their "next" one.

On the serious side of the matter, this race held deep and emotional meaning for the new marathoners. HMCM Vann promptly dedicated his medal and the race to his father, Grady Vann, a double leg amputee suffering from Diabetes.

HM2 Cawthon's medal will go to 2 year old Adam Patrick Amick, the son of close friend suffering from Cerebral Palsy. Both runners readily admit that it was the thought of these two individuals that always provided the extra motivation to train on days when they really just didn't feel like it.

While they have no plans to abandon $5 \mathrm{R}, 10 \mathrm{R}$, and Halfmarathons to follow the marathon trail, they have been seen looking through the new "Runner's World" and highlighting some dates on the 1994 Marathon Calendar.

Making very "Honorable Mention" in the "Heartbreak" column of this story was LT. Susan Meyers from the Naval Hospital. While fighting off extreme knee pain, she was pulled by doctors at the 14 mile mark and was advised not to continue citing probable major damage to herself if she continued. Not to be discourage, she has also been looking at that 1994 Marathon Calendar!


Once upon a time, a young girl named Carol was born on Christmas Day. All her friends called her Christmas Carol. Wait a minute... we can't start this story like that. It would be silly! one thing we absolutely cannot have is silliness in this serious newspaper. Let's see... once again upon a time, a greedy and grouchy old coot named Alexander Screwge was walking home from work on Christmas Eve. He was mad because he had to give his employees 59 minutes off with pay because it was Christmas Eve. He never cared much for Christmas anyway, and was certainly not in a giving mood. Imagine his surprise when his door knob turned into the face of Bob Marley. Yes Mon, it's a rat race. Somewhat shaken, he entered his small East Memphis studio apartment, had a quick pizza (no anchovies) and went straight to bed.

He was awakened by a strangely familiar voice singing... I'll have a blue Christmas without you, I'll... Yikes!, said Al. It's the ghost of Elvis. Say Baby, said Elvis. Lemme tell ya 'bout the meaning of Christmas. Christmas means wunnerful things... things like jelly do-nuts, pink Cadillacs, and having your own jet. Yer too cheap, Al. Get out here and have some fun! With that', Elvis vanished without a trace and Al quickly went back to sleep.

Get up, you fool, shouted a feminine voice. He was startled to see the flashing eyes and the fury of Maddie Hayes at her most intimidating. She was dressed in black leather and clearly has better things to do. David, she fairly screamed. You've botched up yet another job, you imbecile! Wait a minute... you're not David, you're Al... Al Bundy. Get a life, scum, she exclaimed as she stomped out of the room. Poor Al was thoroughly confused as he tried to go back to sleep. Just what really was the true meaning of Christmas?

Ta ta taaaa... what the heck? Al sprang from the bed, wondering what this was all about. He was shocked to see the ghost of W . C. Handy playing Taps on his trumpet. Somehow, he instinctively knew that W. C. was playing Tap for him... Al Screwge! Oh no, he said. I've so many things I want to do yet, like being nice to people for a change. I want to help a child. I want to help the homeless. I want to... Ta ta taaaa. Nooo, noooo, nooooo! Please, W. C., give me just one more chance. I'll change my ways, I'll keep Christmas all year long, I'll...

Why, it's Christmas morning! I'm still alive! This is great! He looked out of the window to see the neighborhood kids out on their new skateboards. He ran outside to play with the kids. Hey Kid... let me try that skateboard. OK Mr. Screwge. How do you work this thing? Mr. Screwge, don't go so fast! Whoooaaa! How do you stop this thing? Whoooaaa! Whooooaaaa Baby! Mr. Screwge... watch out for the bus! Crassshhhh!

Ta ta taaa.... ta ta taaaaaaa! Hey Honey... this is the King. Lemme tell ya'bout the true meaning of Christmas. Do it now, Baby!

AFTER HOLIDAY PARTY

Uust a little note from your friendly Recreation Committee, in late January we are planning a post Holiday Party. This little get together will be held after the holiday leave periods so everyone can come and enjoy themselves. The party is going to be heid at the CPO's club with the Navy's top 10 band playing the music. will be catered by the club, which will offer heavy hors d'oeurres with a cash bar. There will be games and other activities. We are hoping to have door prizes to give away throughout the night. rec committee is leaning towards a tropical theme for this party but if you have a suggestion for the theme we will be glad to take them into consideration or any ideas to make this a great party. urust let our rec committee representative know so they can bring it up to the committee. I hope to see a lot of people at the party and will update you more in next months edition of the paper.

## What do you thivk about the navy's new smoking policy?

As members of the Havy Medical Department, we must set an example for other naval personnel to follow. It is unfair to our shipmates and the patients to have to breathe the tobacco smoke of others as they enter our medical facilities. The Navy's Occupational Health regulations strictly prohibit exposing personnel to known carcinotens. Tobacco products, particularly tobacco smoke have been directly linked to causing cancer by the American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Havy has the responsibility to provide the safest possible environment for it's employees to live and work because 1) its the right thing to do and 2) to prevent future litigation.

HMCM (AW) PEXNINGTOM

Titles or lines from Christmas songs


1. Move hitherward the entire assemblage of all those who are loyal in their beliefs.
2. Listen! The celestial harbingers prelude harmonious vocal sounds.
3. Nocturnal hours whose stillness is unbroken.
4. An emotion excited by the acquisition of good given to the terrestial sphere.
5. Adore the vestibules with macro Ilex branches.
6. Exalted heavenly beings to whom we have hearkened.
7. During the nocturna hour when the guardians of bovine quadrupeds survey their charges.
8. Twelve $0^{\prime} c l o c k$ in a clement night witnessed its arrival.
9. The Christmas preceding all others.
10. A small municipality in Judea southeast of Jerusalem.
11. Tintinnabulate carillons.
12. Sacred nocturnal hours.
13. A witnessed vision of maternal emotion exhibited toward the popular personification of the spirit of Christmas.
14. Existence of a trio of potentates from an eastern culture.
15. Desire for a sole Christmas gratuity consisting of a pair of incisors.
16. Personal reverie concerning a religious holiday the color of which is a symbol of purity.
17. The impending visit of a jolly jovial fellow to the urban environment.
18. Heavenly Deity, recline you good fellows of great mirth.
19. A horned quadruped, native to the tundra regions of this planet whose proboscis is of a scarlet hue.
20. Is Your perception of the reverberations emanating from the heavens identical to mine?

The following people were recognized for their achievernents in an awards ceremony in November:

Good Conduct Medal
HM Chum
hMM Pemington

Length of Service Awards
25 years
Earnest McMillian

20 years
Charlotte Hatcher
15 years
John Rindred
Bernice Neal
Cleatis Stacy
Walter Burnette
An Cates
10 years
Burbara Long
Ross Riempe

Letter of Comendation Carol Hince
MA2 Truett
LTJG Bowers
HMB Drewery

15 Ft . Trophy Bass Boat
35 HP Mercury Motor
Trolling Motor
Dept Finder
Brand New Seats (still in box)
Life Jackets

$\$ 3000.00$ OBO Boat can be seen anytime in MWR Parking Lot
Ask for Joe 372-7755
77 Chevy Truck
350, V8 Power steering
Runs great
Perfect for work truck
$\$ 1,200$ OBO
Ask for Joe 372-7755

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Moving sale
4915 Navy RD #9
2 Waterbeds, 1 Calf, King, 1 Twin size
Call anytime 873-2342
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Need a Daycare Provider?
Previous certified provider on base is now state registered provider. Has opening for 1 to 2 infants or toddiers. Under U.S.D.A. program, so all meals are provided. Will do any shifts, overnight, part-time, drop-ins. Please call Renee at 873-0872. References available.

Ladies 10K Gold diamond cluster ring, wide band, 7 diamonds. Retail \$350.00, wholesale \$275.00, sell for \$250.00. Contact Sandy, ext. 7603,5194. Can be seen in QI Room 239.

Grey L-shape sectional in good condition. Asking 100.00 contact LT V. Sullivan at 5833 .

Letter of Appreciation
HMB R. Loftice
HM Hamilton
Betty Black
HM2 Carrasquilla
HMB Little
Sandra Ryan
LCDR Glem
IT Beaver
HM Compton
HMB Arreola



